

# TALEFF & MURPHY, P.C.

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Our File: TA1-02

August 10, 2016

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AUG 12 2016

General State of Montana-Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
215 North Sanders  
P.O. Box 201401  
Helena, MT 59620-1401

OFFICE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

***To our clients, parties to mediations or arbitrations with Mick Taleff, or other persons who have submitted information to Taleff Law Office, P.C. or Taleff & Murphy, P.C.:***

On Wednesday, June 15, 2016, our law office was the subject of a computer "hack" in which access was gained to our data system. We understand the access was made through an attachment to an email, but at this time we do not have any definitive information as to how the access was accomplished. Nor do we know or reasonably believe that any personal information was or may have been acquired by an unauthorized person. We do know that our data system was encrypted by "ransom-ware", necessitating either the payment of a ransom demand or enlisting the aid of our internet technology company to "scrub" the files and restore them. Based on the information provided by our technology company, no data was actually accessed in any file. The encryption was only to prevent us from accessing any data without payment. We did not pay and have recovered access to all data.

Both as a matter of law (Mont. Code Ann. § 30-14-1704) and of ethics, we are

obligated to advise you of this computer security breach. You may wish to take action to determine if any personal information has been accessed by an unauthorized person or otherwise used by an unauthorized person. For attorneys who have submitted confidential settlement memoranda or materials to me, I ask that you notify your clients about this development. I am particularly sensitive to a concern that medical records submitted to me may have been compromised. Again, I have been assured that did not happen.

I sincerely apologize for any inconvenience or concern this development may cause you. My office has certainly found it to be more than an "inconvenience" and understands the frustration and concern it causes to anyone touched by this type of activity. However, it is the reality in this day and age that some persons are more willing to engage in this illegal activity than pursuing productive and honest endeavors. Should you have questions or wish to discuss this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

TALEFF & MURPHY, P.C.

*Mick Taleff*

Ward "Mick" Taleff  
Direct Phone: (406) 761-9415

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